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AIR DISTRICT PRESENTS SIXTH ANNUAL *EXEMPLAR* AWARDS

Victorville -- A deep space communications center which supports interplanetary spacecraft missions and a High Desert military installation were recognized today for their pollution prevention efforts, as the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) presented its 2001/2002 *Exemplar* Awards during its regular Governing Board meeting.

Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex's Budget Management Division received the MDAQMD's highest honor for modifying their facility's vehicle usage plan to reduce total miles driven, gasoline usage and consequently, mobile source emissions in and around the federally funded facility, which is located 40 miles north of Barstow.

In order to meet their goal of reducing vehicular air pollution, Goldstone increased the number of passengers transported on each onsite employee shuttle van from four to six, and voluntarily removed 13 vehicles from service, without compromising operations or service to their employees. As a result of these changes, unleaded and diesel fuel usage at Goldstone has been reduced by a

total of almost 13,000 gallons per year and, most significantly, nitrogen oxide emissions have been reduced by 2,127 lbs. per year, while organic gasses have been decreased by 2,228 lbs. per year. This year's award - which was accepted by Complex Manager Douglas Millmore - is the third *Exemplar* to be presented to Goldstone for their over-the-top environmental efforts.

The National Training Center & Fort Irwin received a record fourth *Exemplar* Award for making significant enhancements to their multi-year dust mitigation program, which has drastically reduced dust and airborne particulate matter at the 1,050 square mile installation since its launch in 1997. Recent enhancements to the program include treating 332,182 square meters of dirt roads with a dust suppressant product; pouring 58,887 square yards of concrete around new buildings on base to reduce blowing dust, and revegetating 87 acres of desert landscape with transplanted native plants.

In 2002, Fort Irwin further fortified their commitment to the environment by acquiring 18 Global Electric Motorcars. By using this fleet of zero-emission vehicles in lieu of gasoline

powered autos, Fort Irwin is expected to reduce vehicular emissions on base by approximately 2.42 tons per year. The 2001/2002 *Exemplar* Award was accepted by Lt. Colonel Jeffrey S. Ogden, Director of Public Works at Fort Irwin.

The *Exemplar* Awards recognize High Desert entities that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to clean air through the development of voluntary activities or projects which reduce or prevent air pollution within the MDAQMD's jurisdiction. The *Exemplar* Awards are presented each September by the local regulatory air agency in association with National Pollution Prevention Week.